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Ms. Susan Nachtrieb
CITY OF WESTMINSTER
4800 West 92nd Ave
Westminster, Co. 80030

RE: STANDLEY LAKE PROTECTION PROJECT -- RESULTS OF SURVEYS FOR THE PREBLE'S JUMPING MOUSE ON THE WETLANDS MITIGATION SITE.

September 7, 1993

Dear Ms. Nachtrieb:

This letter describes the field studies conducted on the wetlands mitigation site located south of 96th Street between Smart Ditch and Upper Big Dry Creek North just west of Alkire Street.

The objective of the study was to determine if the Preble's jumping mouse occurs, or is likely to occur, on the mitigation site. The Preble's jumping (*Zapus hudsonius preblei*) is a subspecies of the meadow jumping mouse, a species widely distributed throughout northeastern United States. The local distribution of this subspecies, however, is poorly known, although it is believed to be restricted to the Colorado Piedmont in the South Platte drainage. The Preble's jumping is currently listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a Category 2 taxon, which indicates that it is presently neither threatened nor endangered but is under consideration for threatened status.

Methods: Field work was conducted on 31 August and 1-4 September 1993. Survey procedures consisted of live trapping, with all animals captured being released following field identification. Trapping methods consisted of setting 100 live traps within potential jumping mouse habitat and checking the traps for four consecutive days.

Potential jumping mouse habitat on the site is quite limited. Personal experience in this locality (particularly at Rocky Flats) indicates that jumping mice, when they occur, are restricted to shrubby riparian sites, especially those with dense stands of willow. Shrubby riparian is virtually absent on the mitigation site. A few small stands of willow occur, but otherwise shrubby species are few and scattered. Trapping was conducted within the willow and also within moist areas containing cattails, sedges, rushes, and lush meadow grasses and forbs.

Results: No Preble's jumping mice were captured on the site. Furthermore, in view of the limited amount of shrubby vegetation along the drainages, as well as the narrow zones of lush herbaceous ground cover that characterize the site, it does not appear to me that the site is likely to support Preble's jumping mice.

The species and numbers of animals that were captured during the four days of sampling (100 traps X 4 days) include the following:

Deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*), 22.

Meadow vole (*Microtus pennsylvanicu*), 73.

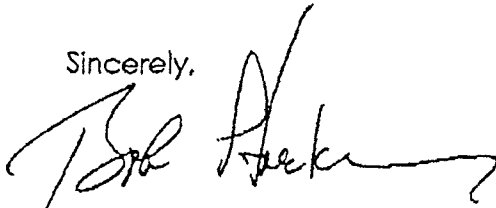
Prairie vole (*Microtus ochrogaster*), 4.

Western harvest mouse (*Reithrodontomys megalotis*), 1.

Thirteen-lined ground squirrel (*Spermophilus tridecemlineatus*), 2.

I hope the information provided here is satisfactory. If I can provide any further details, please feel free to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Stoecker", written in a cursive style.

Robert E. Stoecker, Ph.D.
Animal ecologist